

Table of Contents

Foreword	11
Introduction	13
The Mystery of the Karlštejn Scorpion	15
What Kestrels Are Hunting for	21
The “New Pangolins”, with Spines and a Bezoar	23
I Have Decided to Build a Hotel	27
A Dracula Parrot. Will Naphthalene Save it?	31
Hard Times for Prague Zoo	34
An Extraordinary Mouse from Southern Turkey	38
A Velvet Baby in a Closed Zoo	42
Immortal Scabbers	46
The Photo of the Year	49
How we Looked for and Found the Name for the Orangutan Baby	51
The Highest Award for the Giant Rat	54
Snails for the Northern Caiman Lizard	59
A Generator instead of an Aviary	61
The Last Wild Horse (Hopefully) without Question Marks	64
A Perfect “Archer” from the Indonesian Jungle	67
Prague Zoo Obtained a Unique Living Fossil, the Razor-toothed Turtle	71
More About the Razor-toothed Turtle	74
The Razor-toothed Turtle (<i>Odontochelys haseki</i>)	77
A Pedestal for the Frogmouth	80
A Gift from the King of Comedians to Prague Zoo	84
Wilderness in the Scenery of the Metropolis	87
We Help to Save the White-bellied Heron	91
A Truffle for Scabbers	94
The Legendary Children’s Tram Pulled out Again	97
Gorilla Fairy Tales in the Badwe’e Dialect	100

A Hamster That Rose from the Grave	103
The Menu of Prague Zoo	107
Correcting Misconceptions about the Common Viper	110
The First Short-beaked Echidna Puggle in Prague!	114
A Terrapin with a Hollywood Tale	118
The Secret of Alpine Longhorn Beetles from Bezděz	123
Pure Terror in the Eyes of Defenceless Animals	131
Helping Nature: a Weevil Farm	134
A Miracle Tree from the Forest	139
A Deathstalker that Could Save Lives	142
A Mountain Restaurant and the Amazing Bojana	145
The Highest Award for Prague Zoo	151
A Century after Ali's Arrival in Prague	153
Rare Gorillas in Eastern Congo	157
One of One Hundred and Nine Sad Stories	163
A Mystery in Melchior Goldast's Diary	165
My New Hobby for Autumn and Winter	169
The Six-legged Offspring of Adam, Eve and Vanessa	172
Flip and Alang Alang Have Their Third Baby	177
A Column about a Column. Plague, in the Zoo	179
The Wombat Called Cooper	182
An 80-million-year-old Secret, or Memories of the 1990s	187
Anahita in Prague! (Really, this Time!)	194
The Most Beautiful Day in Eastern Congo	197
The Inspiring Story of the "Wombat Boy"	203
A Trace of Czechia in Central Africa	206
The Crocodile Saved at the Last Minute	208
How to Whistle at the Eurasian Pygmy Owl	210
The New Gorilla House	214
The Unveiled Secret of an Egyptian God	220
The Pangolins in Prague!	225
The "Flypaper" of our Great-great-grandmothers	229
Hey Frog!	234
The Last Chance for the Mountain Pygmy-possum?	237

Czech Discoveries about the Platypus	242
A Rare Toroise from the Suburbs	246
The Orangutans on the Run, Though Only for a While	249
The Return of the Wild Horses - Heading East!	253
The Story Continues	258
Index	264
Photographs and Illustrations	270